

WDS

6 July 1955

STIAAT

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: CIA Representation in the National War College

REFERENCE: Memo to DCI from Chairman, Joint Chiefs, dtd  
31 May 1955

1. Two problems emerge from the reduction of CIA's quota of student spaces at the National War College namely:

a. What can be done to regain one slot in the 1955-1956 class.

b. What can be done about the future.

2. The Bronze Team, JCS, is the staff section responsible for exercising staff supervision over the National War College. In conversations between members of OTR and the Bronze Team on this subject, it was learned that:

a. The Bronze Team, on instructions from Admiral Radford, visited the National War College to see if one more student could be accommodated in the 1955-1956 class. The answer was no. The College is operating to the limit of its physical capacity to handle students.

b. All candidates who can be accommodated in the next class have been notified by the Commandant that they have been accepted as students. The only possibility of increasing CIA representation for the next class is the event of cancellation of enrollment already made. This is unlikely except in an unusual emergency such as illness. The Armed Forces regard attendance at the National War College as taking priority over all other assignments.

3. An informal check with the Foreign Service Institute indicates that the Department of State quota has been met and there are now no foreseeable prospects for cancellation

4. Since Admiral Radford indicates in the reference that CIA has only second priority on cancellations, it is doubtful that we can increase our representation this year unless the Department of State can be persuaded to relinquish two slots, one for us and one for NSA.

5. The courses of action open to the Agency to obtain an additional space for the current class are as follows:

a. To persuade the Department of Defense to reduce its quota by one. This is unlikely of success since it was the Secretary of Defense who directed the Joint Chiefs to find spaces by reducing other civilian quotas.

b. To persuade the Department of State to cancel a slot in our favor. This may cost State two slots unless the Joint Chiefs give CIA higher priority on cancellations. (See par. 4 above)

6. I recommend that you pursue both courses of action, as a matter of principle, even though at this late date the prospects of success are doubtful.

7. Meanwhile, this Office is analyzing the basic charter of the National War College which sites as its purpose " . . . the preparation of selected personnel of the Armed Forces and the Department of State for the exercise of joint and combined high-level policy, command and staff functions, and for the planning of national strategy." We believe that we can recommend a revision of the charter which will strengthen our case for more substantial representation in the future. The decision to include additional Department of Defense civilians in the National War College is a fact we may be able to use to operate in our favor in this case.

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Director of Training

OTR/PPS/LES:ff

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